In the Court of Shri Fateh Deep Singh, Sessions Judge, Kapurthala.

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Bail Application No.Nil dated 11.06.2009.

Date of Order:30.06.2009. G.No. - 829/22-10-09.

State Vs. Sunil Chopra son of R.C.Chopra, r/o 339 Saheed Udham Singh Nagar, Jalandhar.

...Accused-petitioner.

(Supplementary Bail Application under Section 438 Cr.P.C.)

F.I.R.No. 163 dated 08.04.2009. Under Sections:295-A, 153-A, 120-B IPC read with Section 3(1)(x) of S.C. & S.T. Act Police Station: City Kapurthala.

Bail Application No.Nil dated 11.06.2009.
 Date of Order:30.06.2009.

State Vs. Ashu Khurana w/o Rajesh Khurana, House No.75-D, Type-IV Special, R.C.F, Kapurthala.

.. Accused-petitioner.

(Supplementary Bail Application under Section 438 Cr.P.C.)

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F.I.R.No. 163 dated 08.06.2009
Under Sections:153-A/295-A/120-B IPC
And Section 3(1)(x) of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled
Tribes(Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.
Police Station: City Kapurthala.

3) Bail Application No.Nil dated 12.06.2009.

Date of Order: 30.06.2009.

State Vs. Narendra Khanna , M.D.Srijan Publishers Pvt.Ltd.

R/o Plot No.10, 1st Floor, Vishal Market, Commercial

Complex, Mukherji Nagar, Delhi-9.

.. Accused-Petitioner

(Supplementary Bail Application under Section 438 Cr.P.C.)

F.I.R.No. 163 dated 08.06.2009.
Under Sections:153-A/295-A/120-B IPC
And Section 3(1)(x) of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes(Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.
Police Station: City Kapurthala.

4) Bail Application No. Nil dated 12.06.2009.

Date of Order: 30.06.2009.

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State Vs. Manisha Sharma d/o Dr.Satish Sharma, c/o Delhi Public School Noida, U.P.

...Accused-Petitioner

(Supplementary Bail Application under Section 438 Cr.P.C.)

F.I.R.No. 163 dated 08.06.2009.

Under Sections: 153-A/295-A/120-B IPC

And Section 3(1)(x) of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes(Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

Police Station: City Kapurthala.

5) Bail Application No. Nil dated 15.06.2009.

Date of Order: 30.06.2009.

State Vs. Suraj Anand son of Sh. Madan Lal Anand, Prop. M/s Swaraj Kitab Ghar, Mai Hiran Gate, Jalandhar.

...Accused-petitioner.

(Supplementary Bail Application under Section 438 Cr.P.C.)

F.I.R.No. 163 dated 08.06.2009.

Under Sections: 153-A/295-A/120-B IPC

And Section 3(1)(x) of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled

Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

Police Station: City Kapurthala.

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Present:

Sh.Amanpal Singh Dhillon, Advocate for accusedpetitioner Sunil Chopra.

Sh.Chandra Shekhar, Advocate for petitioner

Ashu Khurana.

Sh.R.K.Bhalla, Advocate for petitioners Narendra Khanna, Manisha Sharma and Suraj Anand.

Sh.B.S.Dhillon, Public Prosecutor for State-respondent with Daljit Singh Inspector/SHO and ASI Jit Lal.

S/Sh.Dalbir Singh and Daljit Singh, Advocates for the complainant.

Order

This order shall co-jointly dispose off the above detailed five Anticipatory Bail Applications including the Supplementary Bail Applications of the petitioners Sunil Chopra, Ashu Khurana, Narendra Khanna, Manisha Sharma, and Suraj Anand moved under Sections 438 Cr.P.C. in the case detailed in the head of this order and having arisen out of the same very F.I.R. and for the sake of convenience and brevity are being disposed off together. Upon notice Sh.B.S.Dhillon alongwith Daljit Singh Inspector/SHO and ASI Jit Lal have put in appearance on behalf of the State and detailed the facts as under:-

A complaint dated 23.05.2009 was moved by Charanjit Hans and others purporting to be members of Rawan Sena Action Committee, Kapurthala to the Deputy Commissioner, Kapurthala wherein, they alleged that in Sacred Heart Public School Kanjli Road, Kapurthala, a Hindi Text Book "Parag" Part 7 published by

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accused Narendra Khanna has been prescribed by its Chairman, accused-petitioner Sunil Chopra with an intention to lower esteem of their Community in the Society which has been written by accused-petitioner Manisha Sharma, wherein, in Chapter 6, a story about Bhagwan Valmik Ji to lower the prestige of Balmiki Community has been given, which is derogatory to their religion, which has hurt their religious sentiments and requested taking of suitable action against these persons threatening to start agitation on the roads, as, it has distorted the facts. This complaint was forwarded to the police and subsequent upon which the present case was got registered under Section 295-A of the I.P.C against accused-petitioners Manisha Sharma, the Writer, Narendra Khanna, the Publisher, Sunil Chopra, the Chairman of the School, Ashu Khurana, the Member of the School and Suraj Anand and during the course of present bail applications, offences under Sections 153-A, 120-B IPC alongwith Section 3(1)(x) of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes(Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 were added.

3. Sh. B.S.Dhillon Ld. Public Prosecutor for the State alongwith Sh.Narinder Singh and Sh.Dalbir Singh, Advocates for the complainant have opposed the grant of anticipatory bail applications on the grounds that by their intentional acts, the

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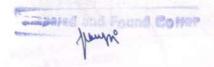
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accused have demeaned the Community of the complainant and have hurt the religious feelings and it is a deep rooted conspiracy and which is prejudicial to the maintenance of harmony between the Communities and if such like acts are allowed to go unchecked, will bring about anarchy and lawlessness in the Society and prayed for dismissal of the bail applications.

S/Sh.Amanpal Singh Dhillon, Chandra Shekhar, and R.K.Bhalla, Advocates have submitted on behalf of the accusedpetitioners that petitioners Sunil Chopra and Ashu Khurana have already joined the investigations as per the stand of the Investigating Officer and that the District Administration has acted in a partisan manner having buckled under threat of the complainant and that there was no evidence that the accusedpetitioners had any intention of writing of such a matter as would hurt the religious sentiments of any particular Community and have gone through the various religious Text Books and historial material to impress upon the Court that what has been detailed in the Text Book which is a prescribed course is a historical fact and does not stand covered under the provisions of Sections 295-A, 153-A nor under the provisions of Section 3 of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes(Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and to support their contentions have cited Pishora Singh Vs. State of

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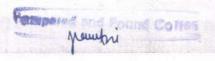


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Punjab reported in 2002(2) RCR(Criminal) 215, The Trustees of Safdar Hashmi Memorial Trust Vs. Govt. of NCT of Delhi reported in 2001(4)RCR(Criminal) 737, Jonathan Nitin Brady Vs. State of West Bengal reported in 2008(4) RCR(Criminal) 370, Bilal Ahmed Kaloo Vs.State of Andhra Pradesh reported in 1997(2) Apex Court Journal 362(S.C.) and Manzar Sayeed Khan Vs. State of Maharashtra and Anr. reported in 2007(2) Apex Court Judgments 629.

crux of the allegations revolve around, if the accused by their intentional act in writing and publishing this story upon the life of SAGE RISHI VALMIK JI have knowingly promoted enmity between different groups on the basis of religion and have deliberately with malicious intention outraged the religious feelings of a particular Community and thus, have by this conspiracy intentionally insulted and humiliated member of Scheduled Caste Community. As has been argued by the Counsel for the petitioners on the basis of The Trustees of Safdar Hashmi Memorial Trust's, Jonathan Nitin Brady's, Bilal Ahmed Kaloo's and Manzar Sayeed Khan's cases ibid which could by no means countered by the prosecution, the Hon'ble apex Court as well as a Full Bench view of the Hon'ble Delhi High Court have laid down

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that for the promotion of feeling of enmity, hatred or ill will between different religion or rational groups or caste and Community , it is necessary that at least two such groups or Communities should be involved and mere inciting the feeling of one Community or group without any relations to any other Community or group cannot attract the provisions of Section 153-A of the IPC and furthermore in <u>The Trustees of Safdar</u> Hashmi Memorial Trust's case ibid it has been held that to tantamount to commission of offence under Section 295-A of the I.P.C, the insult to religion offered unwillingly or carelessly or without any deliberate or malicious intention of outraging the religious feelings of that Class are not incompassed by this provision and is, thus, an aggravated form of insult of religion, when it is perpetrated with deliberate and malicious intention of outraging the religious feelings of that Class. The arguments that the contents of the story in Vol.VII, Chapter 6 pages 34 to 37 of twisted and distorted Hindi Book "Parag" are intentionally, facts could not be substantiated by the prosecution, as, mere statement of one Lekh Raj Parvana with no credentials of a historian of repute, when, as has been the voluminous literature placed before this Court by the defence Counsel detailed in Maharishi Valmiki, Sankshipt Sakandpuran,

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Sankshipt Bhavishyapuran, Adhyatamramayan, Shrimadvalmikiya Ramayan, Kalyan Sanskar-Ank and Pramukh Rishi-Muni. The famous writer of "Valmiki Jyanti aur Bhangi Jaati" Sh.Bhagwan Dass, Advocate proves that Rishi Valmiki was a Brahmin by birth and so does the famous writings Vrahad Hindi Gyan Kosh, Anand Ramayan, Kritivass Ramayan, Rajya Kanda clearly expresses the historical and religious views that Rishi Valmik Ji as the word Valmik means "Anthills" was earlier known as Ratna Kara/Ratna, a Brahmin by birth being son of Pracheta, a Brahmin from Bhrigu Dynasty and who 1 by pursuing violence and by leading alif has been earlier swayed from Brahminical thought and after he met another known SAGE Narada, his life underwent a great change and thus, this transformation was viewed as a purification of a soul and birth of a divine being. From this historical and religious literature, it negates the arguments of the prosecution that Rishi Valmik Ji was from a lower Caste and as to his past or that accused had twisted and distorted the truth to demean the SAGE RISHI VALMIK JI or belongs to the very community, to which, the complainant belongs, thus, necessary elements to attract the offences under Sections 295-A, 153-A of the I.P.C. that there was an intentional and deliberate, malicious publication to

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outrage the religious feelings and to bring about feeling of hatred

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between two Classes of Communities is apparently missing in view of this historical support. In view of the law laid down in Pishora Singh's case supra taken support of by the Counsel for the petitioners, where, it has been laid down, it is essential that at the time of commission of the offence, the accused should be aware that the complainant belongs to a caste covered under the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes(Prevention of Atrocities)Act 1989 so notified. That as has been detailed above, in the absence of any evidence that the complainant and Rishi Valmik Ji belong to the same Community covered under the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes(Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 and there being no case of intentional insult or intimidation/humiliation and story being based on historical facts, the provisions of section 18 of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities)Act 1989 is not attracted.

6. Since there is no satisfactory reason spelled out by the prosecution that the custodial interrogation of any of the accused-petitioners is essential, and in view of the Hon'ble Supreme Court laid down in *Jonathan Nitin Brady's case ibid* cited on behalf of the accused-petitioners without taking them into custody, as, nothing is to be recovered from them and the fact that accused-petitioners Sunil Chopra, Ashu Khurana have already joined

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investigations, in view of which the present bail applications as well as supplementary bail applications moved by accused -petitioners Narendra Khanna, Manisha Sharma and Suraj Anand are allowed, and in the eventuality of the arrest of these accused-petitioners, in this case, they shall be released on bail, to the satisfaction of the Arresting/Investigating Officer as per conditions enshrined in Section 438(2) Cr.P.C, whereas orders of interim anticipatory bail dated 11.06.2009 passed in favour of accused-petitioners Sunil Chopra and Ashu Khurana are hereby, made absolute as well as supplementary bail applications, subject to same terms and conditions, which are envisaged in Section 438(2) Cr.P.C. Copy of this orders be placed in records of bail applications titled 'State Vs.Ashu Khurana, Narendra Khanna, Manisha Sharma and Suraj Anand. Since all these bail applications have been disposed off, files be consigned to record-room after registering them separately.

Announced in open Court. Dated:30.06.2009.

(Fatch Deep Singh) Sessions Judge, Kapurthala.

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